

CONNECTOR**Abstract**

A connector is capable of being miniaturised, whilst inadvertent pushing in of a retainer
5 is prevented.

A housing main body 2 into which female terminal fittings are inserted has a retainer
insertion groove 23 formed on a side face thereof, a retainer 14 being inserted into this
retainer insertion groove 23. The retainer 14 is maintained in a temporary stopping
10 position which allows the insertion of the female terminal fittings into cavities thereof.
After that, the retainer 14 is pushed further in and maintained in a main stopping
position where it engages stepped members of the female terminal fittings. When the
retainer 14 is in the temporary stopping position, the posterior end (relative to the
direction of insertion) of this retainer 14 is inside the housing main body 2. As a result,
15 the retainer 14 is not pushed inadvertently into the main stopping position while, for
example, the connector is being transported to a site where the female terminal fittings
are to be inserted. A hood member 35 does not need to perform the function of
protecting the retainer 14, consequently its size can remain small so as merely to cover
a sealing ring 10.